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SEP 01 2006

REMARKS

Request for Reconsideration

Applicant has carefully considered the matters raised by the Examiner in the outstanding Office Action but remains of the position that patentable subject matter is present. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the Examiner's position based on the attached Terminal Disclaimers and the following remarks.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-38 have been rejected on a non statutory obviousness-type double patenting based on Claims 1-30 in U.S. Patent 6,780,558. In response to this rejection, a Terminal Disclaimer is enclosed herewith.

Claims 1-38 have been rejected on a non statutory obviousness-type double patenting based on Claims 1-20 of U.S. Patent 6,921,616. In response to this rejection, enclosed herewith is a Terminal Disclaimer.

PTO Form 2038 is enclosed herewith authorizing payment of the appropriate government Disclaimer fees.

Finally, Claim 27 had been provisionally rejected on a non statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claim 12 of copending Application 10/802,452. This was a provisional rejection since neither this Application nor the '452 Application have issued. Applicant respectfully traverses this double patenting rejection.

Specifically, Applicant traverses the double patenting rejection based on the '452 Application in accordance with MPEP 804I.B.1. This Application was filed two days prior to the '452 Applications. Furthermore, the only rejection pending in this Application is the double patenting rejection. Since the only rejection in this Application is based on an earlier filed Application of the two copending Applications, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner should withdraw this double patenting rejection and issue a Notice of Allowance in this Application in accordance with MPEP 804 I.B.1.

Conclusion

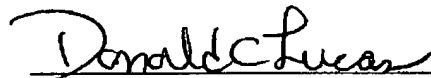
In view of the foregoing and the enclosed, it is respectfully submitted that this Application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Should any further fees or extensions of time be necessary in order to maintain this Application in pending condition, appropriate requests are hereby made and authorization is given to debit Account # 02-2275.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:


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Encl: Two executed Terminal Disclaimers
PTO Form 2038 for \$260.00

DCL/mr